GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3405
ANSWERED ON:17.08.2005
ARTIFICIAL PROTEIN POWDER
Sharma Shri Madan Lal

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware that artificial protein powder is being sold in the market for weight loss ;

(b) if so, whether that powder has ill effects on health;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether any investigation has been done into the matter;

(e) if so, the outcome thereof;

(f) whether the Government has any proposal to ban the sale of such protein powders; and

(g) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH & FAMILY WELFARE (SMT. PANABAKA LAKSHMI)

(a) to (g): Some powders are reported to be sold in the market as food supplements which make claims for facilitating weight loss. Since these products do not come under the definition of `food` under PFA Act 1954, there is no proposal at the present moment to ban the sale of such powders.

However, to regulate the sale and quality control of such products, the Ministry of Health drafted a Health Food Supplement Bill to cover such categories of products. Since the draft Integrated Food Law being piloted by Ministry of Food Processing Industries has reference to health foods, the aforesaid draft Bill prepared by Ministry of Health was forwarded to Ministry of Food Processing Industries for suitable incorporation in the draft integrated food law.